

CLAIMS

I Claim:

Sub A1
 1. ~~A remote control device comprising:~~
 a microprocessor including a CPU and memory means;
 5 a keypad including a set of keys coupled to said microprocessor;
 lamp driver circuitry coupled to said microprocessor;
 means for generating IR signals coupled to said IR lamp driver circuitry;
 10 code data for executing command functions of a plurality of devices of different manufacturers stored in said memory means;
 a Key Reassignment table in said memory means containing key identity mode data, device data format, and function data; and
 program means stored in said memory means for assigning a
 15 different function for the same or different device to a key on the keypad upon the inputting of a predetermined keystroke sequence on said keypad.

2. The remote control device of claim 1 wherein said keypad includes device keys, mode keys and alpha numeric keys.

Sub C2
 3. The remote control device of claim 2 wherein said predetermined keystrokes are a combination of letter keystrokes and number keystrokes.

4. The remote control device of claim 3 wherein the predetermined keystrokes are three letter keystrokes followed by
 25 three number keystrokes.

3.5. The remote control device of claim 4 wherein the keystrokes for the letter keystrokes are A-B-C and the keystrokes for the number keystrokes are 9-9-9.

5. The remote control device of claim 1 wherein the Key Reassignment Table includes for each key, key identity mode data,
 30 device data format, and command function data.

Sub A2
 7. ~~A method for reassigning a function to a key on a keypad in a remote control device including:~~
 a microprocessor comprising a CPU and memory means;
 35 a keypad including a set of keys coupled to the CPU;
 lamp driver circuitry coupled to the microprocessor;
~~means for generating IR signals coupled to the IR lamp driver~~

~~circuitry;~~

~~code data for executing command functions for a plurality of devices of different manufacturers stored in said memory means;~~

and,

5 a Key Reassignment Table in said memory means containing key identity and mode, device data format, and command function data, said method comprising the steps of:

entering a predetermined keystroke sequence on the keypad;

6 determining if the predetermined keystroke sequence is a
10 command to perform special function processing to reassign to a key a function of a device to be controlled;

determining if a function key has been depressed;

storing the key identity and current mode into a "FROM" entry
10 in the Key Reassignment Table;

15 determining if the next key depressed is a mode key;

setting the new mode;

determining if a function sequence of keystrokes has been entered on the keypad for a valid function for the device and mode selected;

20 obtaining device data format and command function data corresponding to the function and mode selected from the Key Reassignment Table; and,

storing the data in a "TO" entry in the Key Reassignment Table.

25 ~~58.~~ The method of claim ⁴ wherein said keystrokes for initiating the special function of reassignment include alpha numeric keystrokes.

~~68.~~ The method of claim ⁵ wherein the alpha numeric keystrokes are A-B-C and 9-9-9.

Sub
A3

30 ~~10. A remote control device comprising:~~

a microprocessor including a CPU and memory means;

a keypad including a set of keys coupled to said microprocessor;

a lamp driver circuitry coupled to said microprocessor;

35 means for generating IR signals coupled to said IR lamp driver circuitry;

~~code data for executing command functions for a plurality of~~

~~devices of different manufacturers stored in said memory means;~~

(10) a Key Reassignment Table in said memory means containing key identity and mode, device data format, and command function data;

means for sensing when a predetermined keystroke sequence has
5 been entered on the keypad;

means for determining if the predetermined key stroke
sequence is a command to perform special function processing to
reassign to a key a function for a device;

means for determining if a function key has been depressed;
10 means for storing the key identity and current mode into a
"FROM" entry in the Key Reassignment Table;

means for determining if the next key depressed is a mode
key;

means for setting the new mode;

15 means for determining if a function sequence of keystrokes
has been entered on the keypad for a valid function for the device
and mode selected;

means for obtaining device data format and command function
data corresponding to the function and mode selected; and

20 means for storing the data in a "TO" entry in the Key
Reassignment Table.

~~11.~~ A remote control device comprising:

a microprocessor including a CPU and memory means;

a keypad including a set of keys coupled to said
25 microprocessor;

means for generating IR signals coupled to said
microprocessor;

code data for executing IR command functions stored in said
memory means;

30 a Key Reassignment table in said memory means containing key
identity, device data format and function data; and

program means stored in said memory means for assigning a
different function to a key on the keypad at the choice of the
user of the device.

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